

D18 (GRCA 8219)

Dear Interested Party:

Subject: Relocation of Xanterra's Retail Distribution Warehouse Operations from Historic Power House Building to Former NPS Maintenance Complex

Reference: Request for Comments (General Scoping)

The National Park Service (NPS) is presently in the planning and compliance stages for the relocation of Xanterra's Retail Distribution Warehouse operations from the Historic Power House building to the former NPS Maintenance complex. The former NPS Maintenance complex is located south-east of the intersection of Center Road and Albright Ave. Other operations in this area include the Grand Canyon Association Warehouse facilities, Grand Canyon National Park Science Center offices and Museum Collections, as well as the existing Xanterra Purchasing Warehouse.  
(Enclosure 1).

Grand Canyon National Park's 1995 General Management Plan (GMP) states that management support functions will be removed from the Historic Power House area so it may be used for interpretation and visitor services. The GMP stated that Xanterra would vacate the Power House Building and would occupy the former NPS Warehouse. It was later determined by park management that the GRCA Science Center and Grand Canyon Association (GCA) will instead occupy the former NPS Warehouse. Although Xanterra will not occupy the former NPS Warehouse they are still required to relocate their retail distribution warehouse operations from the Power House building to the former NPS Maintenance Complex per the GMP. The most critical element in choosing a site within this complex is that minimal new ground disturbance will occur. The site location chosen for the new purchasing warehouse is in a highly disturbed area at the southern edge of the maintenance complex, which will have minimal resource impacts.

The Environmental Assessment will include both a "no action" alternative and an "action" alternative.

**No Action:** The 1995 General Management Plan will not be implemented as directed for the removal of management support functions from the Historic Power House Area. GRCA will not be able to structurally stabilize, remove hazardous chemicals, repair roofing, walls and windows for the GRCA's future use.

**Action Alternative:** Xanterra's operations that currently exist in the Power House Building occupy a space of approximately 9,600 sq. ft. The new facility will be approximately 10,000 sq. ft. and accommodate both warehouse space and administration offices. The new warehouse will be located at the southern edge of the former NPS Maintenance Complex and will be a utilitarian building of compatible size and appearance as the other structures that exist in the former NPS Maintenance Complex. This area is highly disturbed and is intended to be a management support area. The new warehouse will be constructed using materials similar to the existing Xanterra Purchasing Warehouse. All associated trenching for utilities to service this building will occur in previously disturbed areas.

We Invite Your Comments - Before we begin the environmental analysis for this project, we would like to hear your comments regarding any issues you may have with the action alternative. There are several ways to provide comments on this project: This scoping letter is accessible for review and comment at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/grca>, via email to [jill\\_beshears@nps.gov](mailto:jill_beshears@nps.gov) or in writing to the address below. You can also access this scoping letter on our website at [www.nps.gov/grca/compliance](http://www.nps.gov/grca/compliance), **Please provide comments by June 16, 2006.**

Grand Canyon National Park Superintendent  
Attn: Office of Planning and Compliance  
P.O. Box 129  
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023

*It is the practice of the NPS to make all comments, including names and addresses of respondents who provide that information, available for public review following the conclusion of the [NEPA] process. Individuals may request that the NPS withhold their name and/or address from public disclosure. If you wish to do this, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. Commentators using the website can make such a request by checking the box "keep my contact information private." NPS will honor such requests to the extent allowable by law, but you should be aware that NPS may still be required to disclose your name and address pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act.*

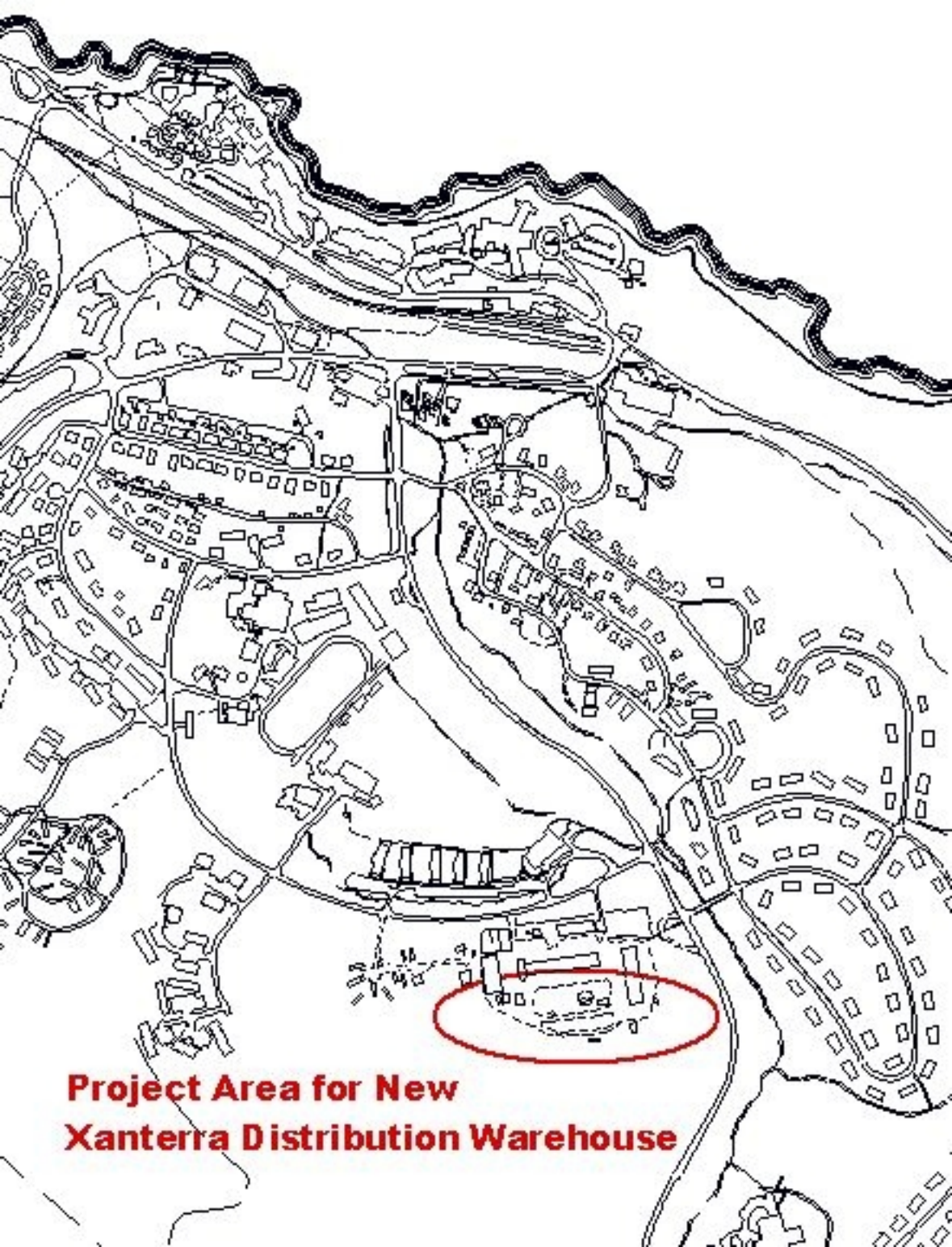
We appreciate your input on this project. If you have any questions, please call Jill Beshears, Project Compliance Lead, at (928) 638-7794.

Sincerely,

Joseph F. Alston  
Superintendent

Enclosures (1)

If you would like to receive a hard copy of the environmental document for this project when it is complete, please contact Jill Beshears at the address above, at (928) 638-7794, [www.parkplanning.nps.gov](http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov) or at [jill\\_beshears@nps.gov](mailto:jill_beshears@nps.gov), and one will be sent to you during the comment period. If you do not respond to this request, a hard copy of the environmental document will not be sent to you. However, please be aware that this environmental document and other environmental documents are routinely available for your review on the Grand Canyon National Park website at [www.nps.gov/grca/mgmt/compliance/](http://www.nps.gov/grca/mgmt/compliance/) and [www.parkplanning.nps.gov](http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov).



**Project Area for New  
Xanterra Distribution Warehouse**